to the pregnant women with the broad objective of reducing Maternal Mortality Rate and Infant Mortality Rate.

AIIMS type hospital at Guwahati

1859. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN; Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up an AIIMS type of hospital at Guwahati to cater the need of the people of Assam and the North-East; and

(b) what steps have been taken by Government to up-grade the Guwahati Medical College Hospital, Assam Medical College Hospital and Silchar Medical College Hospital as was assured by Government earlier?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir. Under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana there is no proposal to set up an AIIMS type institution at Guwahati.

(b) The Government has received proposals for upgradation of Medical College Silchar, Medical College Guwahati and Medical College Dibrugarh. Since this Ministry has no scheme for general Upgradation under which these proposals can be considered, these proposals were techno-economically evaluated and recommended to Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DONER) for funding under Non-Lapsable Central Pool (NLCP) of resources. The DONER has informed that Rs. 8 crores has been sanctioned for upgradation of Guwahati Medical College. The entire amount has been released. The DONER has also informed that Rs. 20 crores has been sanctioned for Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh under NLCP, out of which Rs. 0.22 crores has been released in 2002-03 and Rs. 3.79 crores has been released in 2003-04.

Record of foreign patients

1860. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:/Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are not maintaining any record of foreign patients coming to India for treatment in spite of offering

quality medical treatment at a cost much lower than that of other countries in areas like cardiology, ophthalmology, pathology, Indian systems of medicine, etc.;

(b) if so, the reasons for not maintaining it;

(c) whether it can think of maintaining a centralized record in co-ordination with the Ministry of External Affairs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) For maintaining records regarding the purpose of visit of foreign nationals to India, Ministry of Home Affairs has included a column 'medical treatment' in the revised 'Disembarkation Card' from December, 2003. The data of foreign nationals visiting India for medical treatment is now being maintained in Central Foreigners Bureau (CFB), under Intelligence Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs.

Decentralisation of issuance of form 10 and test licences

1861. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a move to decentralize the issuance of form 10 and test licences and other related approvals from the Drug Controller's office; and

(b) if so, the system in place to monitor the process and what angles were taken into consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Expenditure on Public Healths

1862. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of money spent on public health in India during